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T-520 P.001/004 F-840

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1185 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036
TELEPHONE: (212) 278-0400

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SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR
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AMANDA L. WILLIS, PH.D

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TO : United States Patent and Trademark Office
ATTN. : Examiner Joshua M. Dubnow Group Art Unit 2861
FAX NO. : (571) 273-8300
FROM : Paul Teng OUR DOCKET NO.: 2271/75688
DATE : August 24, 2007

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 4

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♦ MESSAGE ♦

In connection with Serial No. 10/563,214:

Communication In Response To July 26, 2007 Restriction
Requirement.

Due Date: August 27, 2007

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Shinji IMOTO and Seiichi KOGURE

Serial No. 10/563,214

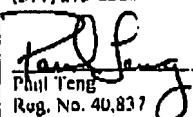
Group Art Unit: 2861

Date Filed: May 5, 2006

Examiner: Joshua M. Dubnow

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile transmission to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300


Paul Teng
Reg. No. 40,837

August 24, 2007
Date

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N.Y. 10036
(212) 278-0400

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO
JULY 26, 2007 RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

This Communication is submitted in response to the July 26, 2007 Restriction Requirement issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office which indicates that examination of the above-identified patent application will be restricted under 35 U.S.C. §121 and 372 to one of the following allegedly distinct groups of claims:

Group I. Claims 1-9, drawn to an image forming apparatus that adjusts the amount of electric charges on the surface of a recording medium in accordance with a resistive values of the recording medium;

Group II. Claims 10-14, drawn to an image forming apparatus that adjusts the amount of electric charges on the surface of a recording medium in accordance with a result of detection of a relative position between the recording medium and the charges applied to the conveyance belt;

Group III. Claims 15-20, drawn to an image forming apparatus that adjusts the amount of electric charges on the surface of a recording medium in accordance with a size of the droplets of the recording liquid discharged from the recording head.

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Group IV. Claims 21-26, drawn to an image forming apparatus that adjusts the amount of electric charges on the surface of a recording medium in accordance with a viscosity of the droplets of the recording liquid discharged from the recording head;

Group V. Claims 27-31, drawn to an image forming apparatus that adjusts the amount of electric charges on the surface of a recording medium in accordance with at least two items; and

Group VI. Claims 32-38, drawn to an image forming apparatus that adjusts the amount of electric charges on the surface of a recording medium in accordance with a resistance value of the recording medium and a fact as to whether an image is being formed on the first or second surface to be printed.

Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Group I (claims 1-9).

For election of Group I, the July 26, 2007 Office Action further requires applicant to elect one of the following species:

- (a) wherein the amount of electric charges on the surface of the recording medium is adjusted in accordance with a result of detection of a surface resistance of the recording medium;
- (b) wherein the amount of electric charges on the surface of the recording medium is adjusted in accordance with a result of detection of a volume resistance of the recording medium;
- (c) wherein the amount of electric charges on the surface of the recording medium is adjusted in accordance with a result of detection of environmental temperature and humidity;
- (d) wherein the amount of electric charges on the surface of the recording medium is adjusted in accordance with externally given information regarding the resistance value of the recording medium;
- (e) wherein the amount of electric charges on the surface of the recording medium is adjusted by controlling a charge period length of applied charges;
- (f) wherein the amount of electric charges on the surface of the recording medium is adjusted by controlling an alternating voltage;
- (g) wherein the amount of electric charges on the surface of the recording medium is adjusted by controlling a timing of applying electric charges; and
- (h) wherein the amount of electric charges on the surface of the recording medium is

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adjusted by controlling at least one of a conveyance speed and a stop time of the conveyance belt.

Applicant hereby elects species (a). Claims from Group I readable on species (a) are claims 1 and 2.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required in connection with this response and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Teng, Reg. No. 40,837
Attorney for Applicant
Cooper & Dunham LLP
Tel.: (212) 278-0400